REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-14, and 16-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-14, and 16-22 have been rejected. Claim 20 has been amended to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention. Support for the amendment to claim 20 is found throughout the specification, and in particular, in claims, 1, 7, and 13, Figure 3, and page 5, lines 2-19. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been presented. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, 16-22 remain pending. For the reasons set forth fully below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Present Invention

The present invention comprises a method and system for configuring a computer system. The method and system comprise providing a plurality of BIOS images in a memory of the computer system, each of the plurality of BIOS images being related to a particular language, selecting one of the plurality of BIOS images from the memory based on the language supported by the computer system by querying a keyboard of the computer system and utilizing the selected BIOS to configure the computer system.

Through the use of the method and system in accordance with the present invention, the language being supported by the computer system is determined when the computer system is booted up, as opposed to when the computer system is being built. This results in an increase in manufacturing productivity, since original equipment manufacturers can build computer systems

without having to worry about language restrictions. The language is chosen at time of use by the end user vs. being predefined at manufacturing time. This is critical in regions where multiple languages are spoken and there is no way of knowing which language the end user prefers at time of system build.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has stated:

> **Claims 1-2, 7-8, 13-14, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hideki, JP pat. No. JP 11-327725.**
>
> **Claims 1, 7, 13 and 20, Hideki teaches a method for configuring a computer system [see *title*], the method comprising the steps of:**
> - a) **providing a plurality of BIOS images in a memory of the computer system, each of the plurality of BIOS images being related to a particular language [*abstract, lines 1-2*];**
> - b) **selecting one of the plurality of BIOS images from the memory based on the language supported by the computer system by querying a keyboard [*keyboard 5 of Fig. 1*] of the computer system [*abstract, lines 2-3*]; and**
> - c) **utilizing the selected one BIOS image to configure the computer system [*abstract, lines 10-11*].**
>
> **Claims 2, 8 and 14, Hideki teaches the plurality of BIOS images are provided via a BIOS select language control program [*abstract*].**
>
> **Claims 21, Hideki teaches the at least one report descriptor is capable of being queried upon initialization of a computer system, to determine a language being supported by the keyboard [*abstract, lines 2-3*].**

Applicants respectfully disagree the Examiner's rejections. Hideki discloses a system that enables a basic input/output system (BIOS) to handle many languages without providing a language interpreter. A language is discriminated using a country ID and a language ID from a keyboard. A BIOS message to be provided to a user is displayed in a language corresponding to the language ID. The BIOS stores output messages of several kinds of main languages and selects a message interface to be provided to a user by referring to a country ID and a language ID of the keyboard. By referring to information of a nonvolatile RAM, the BIOS sets the degree

of freedom for message interface selection by a user customized set. Thus, automatic recognition multilingualism for the BIOS is enabled. (Abstract)

However, Hideki does not teach or suggest the combination of "providing a plurality of BIOS images in a memory of the computer system, each of the plurality of BIOS images being related to a particular language" and "utilizing the selected one BIOS image to configure the computer system," as recited in independent claims, 1, 7, and 13. First, Hideki does not teach or suggest the "plurality of BIOS images" of the present invention. The Examiner has referred to the Abstract, lines 1-2, as teaching the plurality of BIOS images of the present invention. However, Hideki teaches mere output messages to be provided to a user. Specifically, Hideki states that the "BIOS stores BIOS output messages of several kinds of main languages" and that a "BIOS message is displayed in a language corresponding to the language ID" (Abstract, lines 1-9). The output messages of Hideki are clearly different from the plurality BIOS images of the present invention, because a messages of Hideki are merely messages "to be provided to a user," whereas the BIOS images of the present are used to configure the computer system.

Furthermore, Hideki merely describes what the BIOS can output (i.e., output messages in different languages). Hideki does not describe how the BIOS is used to configure a computer system. Nowhere does Hideki discuss configuring a computer system based on a selected BIOS image of a plurality of BIOS images as in the present invention.

Therefore, Hideki does not teach or suggest the combination of steps as recited in the present invention, and claims 1, 7, and 13 are allowable over Hideki.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has stated:

> **Claims 4-6, 10-12, 16-19 and 22 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hideki, JP pat. No. JP 11-327725.**
>
> **Claims 4, 10, 16 and 22, Hideki fails to teach the keyboard comprises a universal serial bus (USB) port.**
>
> **Official Notice is taken that both the concept and the advantages of USB keyboards are old and well known in the art.**
>
> **It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Hideki to include a USB keyboard, because the USB has the advantages of a lower cost, supporting a plurality of transmission protocols, more connections and occupying less system resources.**
>
> **Claims 5, 11 and 17, Hideki teaches the keyboard comprises at least one report descriptor which identifies the language supported by the computer system [*abstract, lines 2-3*].**
>
> **Claims 6, 12 and 18-19, Hideki teaches querying the at least one report descriptor to determine the language supported by the keyboard [*abstract, lines 2-3*].**

Dependent claims 4-6, 10-12, 16-19, and 22 depend from independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 20, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to amended independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 20 apply with equal force to claims 4-6, 10-12, 16-19, and 22, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 7, 13, and 20.

Independent claim 20

Similar to independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 20, amended independent claim 20 recites the combination of "a plurality of BIOS images" and "wherein the selected one BIOS image is utilized to configure the computer system." As described above, with respect to independent claims 1, 7, and 13, Hideki does not teach or suggest these features. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claims 1, 7, and 13 apply with equal force to claim

20. Therefore, claim 20 is allowable over Hideki for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 7, and

13.

Remaining dependent claims

Dependent claims 2, 8, 14, and 21 depend from independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 20,

respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claims 1, 7,

13, and 20 apply with equal force to claims 2, 8, 14, and 21, which are thus allowable over the

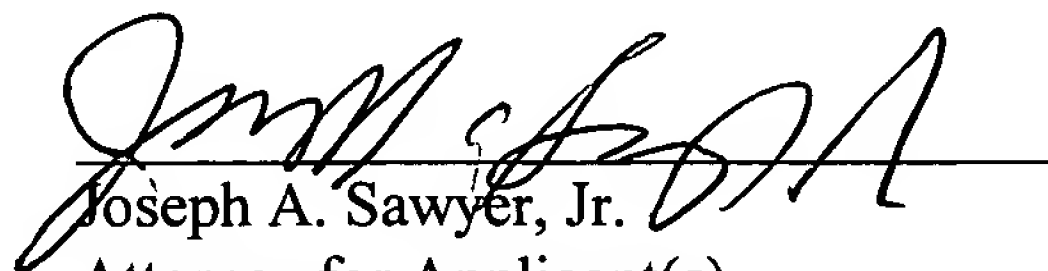cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 7, 13, and 20.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, 16-22 are

patentable over the cited reference. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration

and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should

any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the

telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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__February 25, 2005__
Date

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